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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/992,060	11/21/2001	Robert W. Parish	7240 US	4859

30078 7590 07/28/2003

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EXAMINER

CHEN, PO WEI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2697

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/992,060

Applicant(s)

PARISH ET AL.

Examiner

Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen

Art Unit

2697

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2697

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 4 are independent claims. This action is non-final

The present title of the invention is "Image Alias Rejection Using Shaped Statistical Filtering".

The Group Art Unit of the Examiner case is now 2697. Please use the proper Art Unit number to help us serve you better.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Poduska, Jr. (US 5,777,599; refer to as Poduska herein) and further in view of Alappat et al. (US 5,440,676; refer to as Alappat herein) and Wells et al. (US 5,264,840; refer to as Wells herein).

3. Regarding claim 1, Poduska discloses a image generation device and method using dithering comprising:

An apparatus for image alias rejection of a high resolution (lines 26-39 of column 2);

Means for generating a dither signal (lines 7-20 of column 6 and lines 1-5 of column 7);

Means for summing the dither signal with a dimensional component value of each data point for the high resolution to produce filtered data point values (lines 1-4 of abstract, lines 61-67 of column 6 and lines 1-21 of column 7);

Art Unit: 2697

Means for subsampling the filtered data point values to produce a desired lower resolution for display (lines 1-11 of abstract).

Poduska does not disclose rasterized waveform. However, this is known in the art taught by Alappat. Alappat teaches a raster scan waveform display rasterizer for anti-alias pixel data (lines 14-17 of column 10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize the teaching of Alappat to provide the advantage of eliminating discontinuity, jaggedness or oscilation in the waveform display (lines 1-2 of column 2, Alappat). Also, both Poduska and Alappat are directed to provide smoothness to the image;

Poduska does not disclose shaped dither. However, this is known in the art taught by Wells. Wells teaches a method and apparatus for vector aligned dithering that "the dither matrix is rectangular in shape to correspond to the shape of the vector" (lines 4-6 of abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize the teaching of Wells to provide the function of making sure that the individual pixels which make up the vector are dithered with best elements (lines 50-56 of column 3). Also, both Poduska and Wells are directed to minimize the undesirable effects of the image.

4. Regarding claim 3, Poduska discloses a image generation device and method using dithering comprising:

Generating means comprises a look-up table containing data corresponding to the dither signal (lines 16-20 of column 6 and lines 1-5 of column 7 and Fig. 6).

Poduska does not disclose shaped dither. However, this is known in the art taught by Wells, as statements presented above, with respect to claim 1 above are incorporated herein.

Art Unit: 2697

5. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Poduska, Jr. (US 5,777,599; refer to as Poduska herein), Alappat et al. (US 5,440,676; refer to as Alappat herein) and Wells et al. (US 5,264,840; refer to as Wells herein) as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Cole (US 6,469,684; refer to as Cole herein).

6. Regarding claim 2, the combination of Poduska, Alappat and Wells discloses shaped dither signal, as statement presented above, with respect to claim 1 above are incorporated herein. It is noted that the combination of Poduska, Alappat and Wells does not disclose aplurality of linear feedback shift registers, each producing a random number output; and means for summing the random number outputs. However, this is known in the art taught by Cole. Cole disclose a cole sequence inversion circuitry that utilize multiple linear feedback shift registers to provide a pseudo-random signal (lines 49-67 of column 9 and lines 1-8 of column 10 and Fig. 7). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teaching of Cole to reduce flicker of the display (lines 36-37 of column 2, Cole). Like Poduska, Alappat and Wells, Cole is directed to providing smoothness to the display.

7. Regarding claim 4, statements presented above, with respect to claim 1 are incorporated herein.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Wells et al. (US 5,164,717) disclose "Method and Apparatus for the Dithering of Antialiased Vectors".

Art Unit: 2697

Comins et al. (US 5,179,641) disclose "Rendering Shaded Areas with Boundary-Localized Pseudo-Random Noise".

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen whose telephone number is (703) 305-8365. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Hofsass can be reached on (703) 305-4717. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-6743 for regular communications and (703) 308-6743 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen
Examiner
Art Unit 2697

Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen
July 17, 2003

JOSEPH MANCUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER